### SECRET FOREIGN DISSEM

## Current Support Brief

CONTINUED MOMENTUM
OF SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN 1963



CIA/RR CB 64-14

February 1964

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Research and Reports

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# OF SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN 1963

Soviet military aid and technical assistance programs in underdeveloped countries\* in 1963 remained at a high level, notwithstanding some decline from the record pace of 1961-62. Advanced weapons systems, such as surface-to-air missiles (SAM's), Komar-class guided-missile boats, and MIG-21 jet fighters, were delivered in increasing numbers, with Syria and India receiving such equipment for the first time. Negotiations for new military aid contracts were undertaken with at least 10 underdeveloped countries, suggesting a continued high level of Soviet military aid in 1964.

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The burden of repayments and pressure to extend maturities will increase during 1964 as both the rate and the level of maturities continue to rise and additional equipment purchases persist.

## 1. Military Assistance Agreements and Deliveries

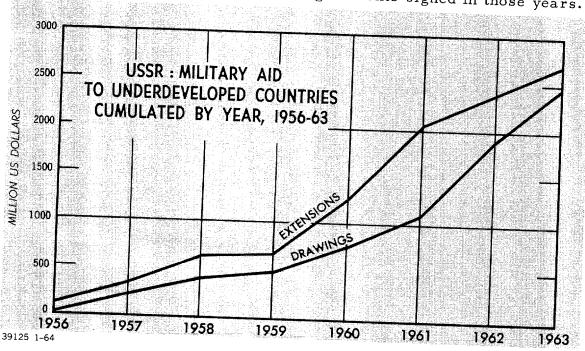
As of 31 December 1963 the approximate value of Soviet military assistance agreements with underdeveloped countries reached a cumulative total of \$2.7 billion, and actual deliveries under these agreements stood at about \$2.5 billion.\*\*\* The extensions and drawings cumulated

\* Cuba as a recipient of Soviet military aid is not included in this

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by year are shown in the chart. As reflected in the chart, extensions increased gradually until 1960-61, when they rose sharply -- largely as a result of the Soviet-Indonesian agreements signed in those years.



The reduction in new extensions in 1962-63 reflects in part the time needed by recipients to assimilate equipment that was ordered previously. Drawings rose gradually until 1962, when they swung sharply upward to an unprecedented zenith as equipment was delivered under the agreements reached in 1960-61. Shipments during the first half of 1963 declined from the pace of 1962, but deliveries from October until the present have gained in momentum. At least 15 ships loaded with Soviet military equipment arrived in the United Arab Republic (UAR) in the period October-December 1963 compared with an average of 1 per month in 3 months preceding October. In the same period, other ships with military cargoes went to Algeria, Guinea, India, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen. By the end of 1963 the value for the year of all military deliveries to the underdeveloped countries had reached approximately \$560 million.

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### 2. Military Technical Assistance and Training

Another factor evidencing the momentum of the Soviet military aid program in 1963 is the sustained impetus of the military technical assistance and training activities for personnel of the underdeveloped countries provided both in the USSR and in recipient countries. The number of Soviet technicians resident in underdeveloped countries and the number of trainees from recipient countries departing for training in the USSR fell slightly below the peak levels of 1962, but they exceeded the numbers engaged in these activities in other years, as shown in Table 1. It may be

									Persons
	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961_	1962	<u>1963 b/</u>
Military trainees departing for the USSR Soviet military technicians in	190	15	315	590	905	705	3,340	3,960	3,600
underdeveloped countries <u>c</u> /	0	200	380	835	995	1,010	1,520	3,500	3,000

a. Data are rounded to the nearest five.

expected that as the ability of the recipient countries to assemble, maintain, deploy, and operate this equipment increases, some diminution in training activity will occur. In fact, the level of assimilation in the recipient countries has already increased, although no great decline in the numbers of personnel involved in technical assistance and training has yet been observed.

b. Preliminary estimate.

c. The estimated number present for 1 month or more.

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#### 3. Advanced Weapons Systems

Deliveries in 1963 continued to include the more advanced weapons systems introduced initially in 1960-61. Surface-to-air missiles (SAM's) were earmarked for the first time to India, and there have been large deliveries of SAM equipment to the UAR, particularly in the last 3 months of 1963. Additional Komar-class guided-missile patrol boats were delivered to the UAR and Indonesia and for the first time to Syria. The UAR and Iraq received more MIG-21 jet fighters, and Syria and India received them for the first time. Several large shipments of these fighters noted in the last weeks of 1963 went to Syria and the UAR. Of total Soviet deliveries of these three weapons systems to the European Satellites and to underdeveloped countries (excluding Cuba), the underdeveloped nations received about 10 percent of the SAM sites, at least 75 percent of the Komar-class boats, and 40 percent of the MIG-21's.

#### 4. Repayments for Military Aid

Known repayments on military aid indebtedness rose to a new high of \$126 million in 1963. Because payments are for indebtedness incurred from past arms deliveries, they are no gauge of current activity. In spite of generous terms provided by the USSR, \* its military assistance has taxed the fiscal ability of many of the recipient underdeveloped countries. This situation has led to a continual process of renegotiation, which usually has resulted in a further easing of the terms. In some cases the USSR has written off parts of the indebtedness, and in others it has eased repayment schedules. A prime example of the latter occurred in June 1963 when the USSR and Indonesia signed a protocol substantially reducing the latter's annual repayment obligations for military aid by extending the repayment period. Drawings (after applicable discounts\*\*) and repayments made thus far on Soviet military aid are shown in Table 2.

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\*\* That is, the amount that must be repaid by recipient countries.

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Table 2

Payments by Underdeveloped Countries on Drawings of Military Equipment 1956-63

Million US \$

		11,11,11,11,11
Year	Discounted Drawings	Repayments
1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963	11 77 82 35 89 156 482 314	a/ a/ 26 30 65 75 126
Total	 1,246	322

a. Less than US \$1 million.

About one-fourth of total indebtedness has been paid, but as grace periods run out and obligations enter periods of high annual repayment, the burden on recipients will become more onerous.\* For example,

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Moreover, as the recipients purchase additional equipment, this burden continues to grow. There is no evidence, however, that any prime recipient of Soviet military aid will discontinue purchases in the next few years. The UAR, for example, which may have ordered as much as \$100 million worth of arms in 1963, must assimilate this weaponry, knowing that repayment, under present schedules, would be progressively more burdensome and that it would concide with repayment of economic aid obligations which will begin to mount more rapidly in 1965.

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#### 5. Prospects

In spite of some decline in new military aid extensions in the past 2 years -- not unusual for a program so responsive to exploitable opportunities and subject to the assimilative abilities of recipients -- the substantial value and volume of agreements and deliveries, the continued pace of the technical assistance and training programs, and the increased deliveries of advanced weapons systems, all presage a continued high level of Soviet military aid during 1964. The problem of repayments, however, will loom larger for recipient countries. Indeed, the over-all prospect is bleak for on-time future payments of military aid debts to the USSR, and the USSR will be required increasingly to renegotiate terms and schedules for major recipients.

It is unlikely, however, that increasing problems of indebtedness will prevent the expansion of the Soviet military aid program in the next few years. Continuing deliveries of ammunition and spare and replacement parts will be required by recipient countries to service and maintain Soviet equipment already delivered. Negotiations for new agreements in 1963 between the USSR and Afghanistan, Algeria, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Morocco, Syria, the UAR, and Yemen indicate undiminished willingness on the part of the underdeveloped countries to receive Soviet military assistance.

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